

March 7, 1945

My darling Mama!

This is the first time for more than a week that I've had a chance to sit with lazy leisure to write you. Circumstances preventing my writing seemed to [illegible] up on me. We had to attend officers meeting for 3 nights, and didn't return until around eleven. Worked a couple of nights and went to a dance one night. As C.O. (detest that term) I have a good bit [illegible] to do. In this respect I've had a little jealousy to combat.

We have a visiting officer here tonight and I resent his being here because I wanted a little quiet for a change.

As always where I've been [illegible] in my writing I feel very far away from you. Received a letter from [illegible] Blanche and she mentioned that you looked well, but the tone in which she mentioned your worrying about me caused me to have a slight uneasy feeling.

My mattress which Harold gave me gave me the middle [illegible] me to lie unnaturally as a result I have had a stiff neck for the past several days. I never take time to rearrange my mattress and so my neck continues to bother me.

I received the Echo picturing the late [illegible] citizen of Eden [illegible].

In my last letter I enclosed two snapshots taken last July. I am going to send them by twos rather than all at once for fear they might all be lost.

The war plunges on doesn't it? As I've said a million times before I don't see how in the hell Germany continues, but they do continue. I'll give them until June. No longer maybe July. Over here the next thing is China. Mopping up operations are encouraging, but [illegible] the Philippine campaign is finished. A five month campaign not bad. Like you I think war never is very unsatisfactory. One becomes enthusiastic. There forever a period of lassitude then [illegible] despite the successes of the moment where one realizes about how much longer the war will last, the momentary encouragement seems but a drop in the bucket.

Frances is now in training, not a Red Cross nurse. There are very few of these, but a Red Cross "worker" or entertainer. There are about twenty or more of these on this base. There are lots of them in the theater. Also [illegible] of male Red Cross workers. They are supposed to cheer patients in hospitals and I imagine that to some extent they are successful in that they find diversions for patients. Give them puzzles provide brass (from ammo shells) for them to make things out of. I finally broke off with her. I think that I actually began to dislike her through letters.

Mail is fairly good but I hope to have a letter from you tomorrow. For some reason or other I've been thinking a good bit about our past [illegible] trip. It shall be a lavish affair I assure you.

Walter and [illegible] both wrote rather nice letters. It's not at all [illegible] that Walter eventually might be sent overseas. Lots of officers came over who have been in the states for a long time.

Well good night my darling mama. Shall write daily for a week. I certainly love and adore you and miss you very much.

Your ever loving son,

John M. Harrod